

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-26 have been cancelled, and claims 27-42 have been added. Thus, claims 27-42 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The specification and abstract have been carefully reviewed and revised to make grammatical and idiomatic improvements in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are incorporated in the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and Abstract by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

In item 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims 2-9, 12, 13 and 15-26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, the original claims 1-26 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 27-42. New independent claim 27 constitutes a combination of the allowable claim 2 with the independent claim 1, and new independent claim 41 constitutes a combination of the allowable dependent claim 17 with the independent claim 1. The remaining claims 28-40 depend from the allowable claim 27, and the dependent claim 42 depends from the allowable claim 41.


In addition, the claim language of the new claims 27-42 has been revised relative to the language of the previous claims so as to address each of the problems enumerated by the Examiner in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to otherwise clearly comport with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is now clearly in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 3, 2006